8/19/72

Mr. Tom Kelley, Ass't Dir.
Protective Research
U.S.Secret Service
1800 G St., NW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

In the past you agrred to give me and then did provide me with what you represented as a complete chain of possession of the JFK autopsy film, including all relevant receipts and memos. I asked you specifically about the descriptions of the appendix of the GSA contract, of film exposed but showing no ~~[illegible]~~ image. You said you had no records and could provide no explanations. I took your word, completed a rather painful writing, and now learn that you had and withheld other records, including an explanation of this particular damage to this particular film.

So, I write to ask again for all that you have withheld on this, under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552 and other relevant law and regulation. In this case I regard the Secret Service as the agency of paramount concern and ask that it be provided directly to me, not through any intermediaries or second persons who may again, without objection from the Secret Service, deny me what the Secret Service says it has given me and I have not gotten.

You will recognize that here I am referring to the so-called memo of transfer. That now as ones new importance, so I renew my request for a copy of whatever copy the Secret Service has of this, under the same authority and conditions. I now add a new request, for a copy of whatever law or other legal authority permitted the Secret Service to dispose of this government property, the film at issue and included in the memo of transfer. If there were any rulings, interpretations, decisions or any other records involved in or with the film and its passing from the hands of the Secret Service, I also ask for the copies of those that are relevant.

With regard to the reported and undenied account of the deliberate damaging of the autopsy film, there may be other unreported documents, including but not limited to instructions, orders, inquiries and actions, if any, taken in relation thereto, of which I also ask copies, as I do of any explanation of the damaging of other film, which is an officially-reported fact that is not covered in the published accounts of what happened to the 120 film. By "explanation" I mean to include an and all documents and anything you would care to add to what you have already written me.

I regret very much having taken in good faith a word that has turned out to be undependable and the resultant flaw in my completed writing. This is something I did not expect.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg